

CAROLINAS ONLY INDEPENDENT FARM MAGAZINE

THE *Carolina Farmer*

IN THIS ISSUE:



Research and Tobacco

By W. E. Colwell

Beef Cattle Situation in North Carolina

By T. L. Gwyn

God in the Open Spaces

By Rev. Russell S. Harrison



VOLUME II - NUMBER 8

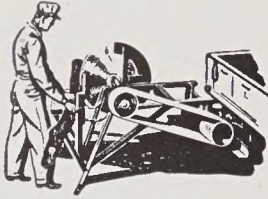
August, 1947

... Tobacco Flower ...





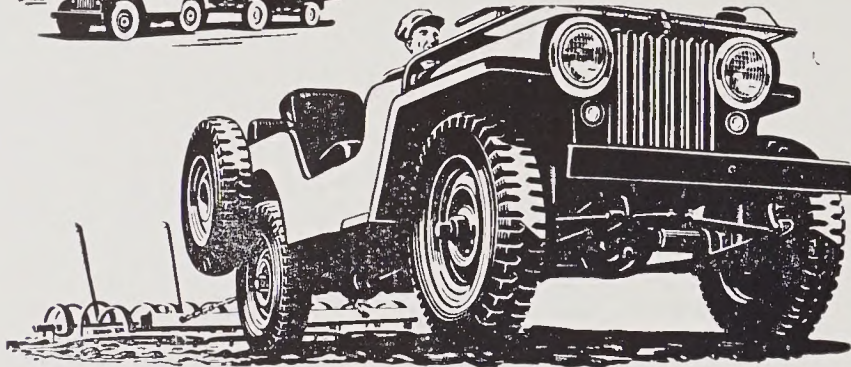
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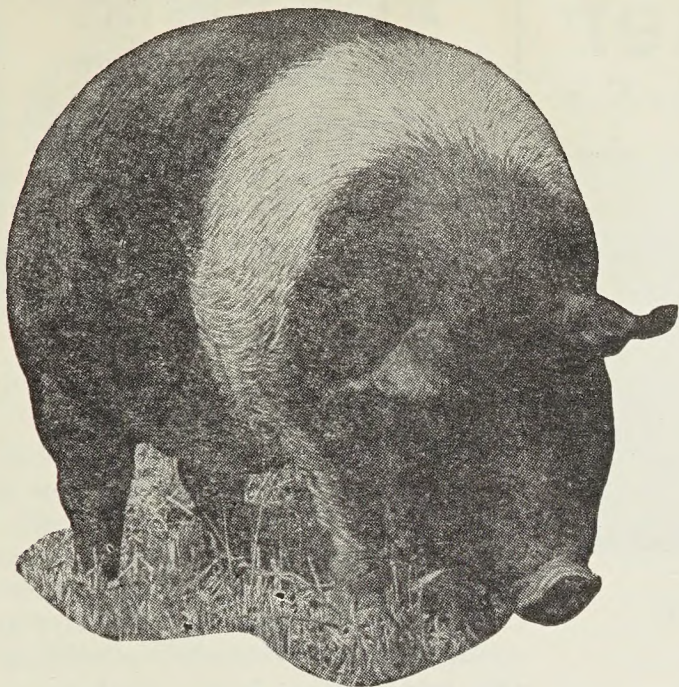
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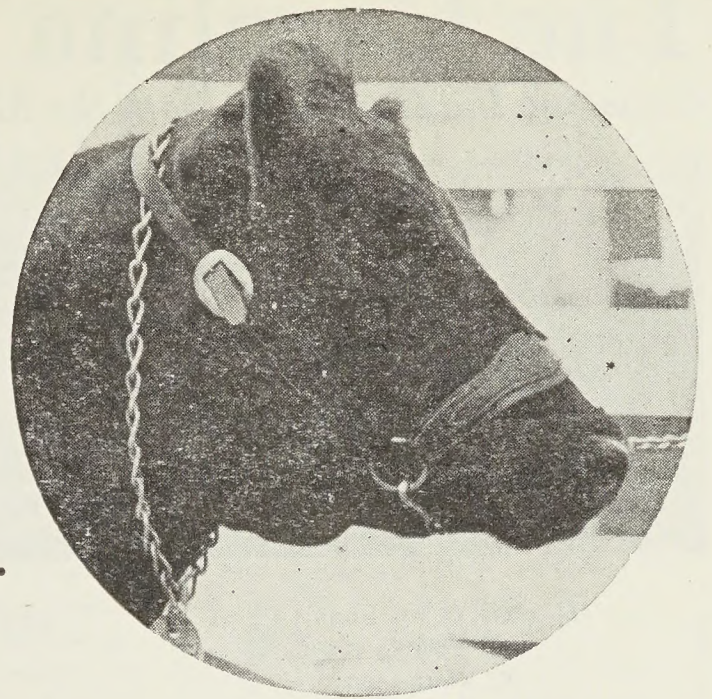
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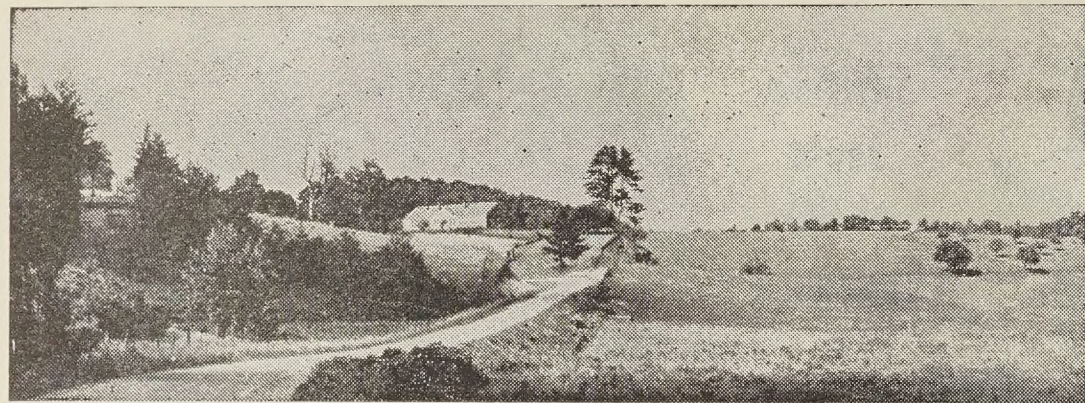
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Volume II

AUGUST, 1947

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OUR FRONT COVER

TOBACCO FLOWER—Meet "Miss Wilson," Miss Ada Grey Coley, who will be official hostess at the Sixth Annual North Carolina Tobacco Exposition and Festival to be held in Wilson August 14 and 15. She is the beautiful and attractive daughter of N. P. Coley, Wilson County farmer.

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At Home on the Farm With the City Cousin

I was sauntering down the street about a year ago and along came my old friend, Jack Weaver, leadin' a big work mule.

"Where you goin', Jack, leadin' that mule right through the middle of town?" I asked him.

"I'm takin' him over to the dentist to get his teeth fixed," he calmly replied.

Now I've always had a lot of respect for Jack Weaver—folks say he's one of the best farmers in Eaglerock County—but I knew that even if our dentist had gone mad and turned to grindin' mule's teeth, the animal would have to have an appointment like everybody else and probably have to stand in line for hours, to boot.

"This I want to see!" I says to Jack, and we walked down the street together, us and the mule. Pretty soon, we found ourselves at the edge of the school yard where farmers from all over the area had gathered with their horses and mules.

"A workstock clinic," Jack informed me, as if I already knew. "The State College Extension Service holds these early in the year all over North Carolina. Bert, here's, gonna get a dental inspection," he added solemnly.

I got around to talkin' to the licensed veterinarian, who gave it to me straight. "The horse's mouth is so constructed that its teeth wear off irregularly," he told me, "and if this isn't corrected, the animal can't chew properly, and digestive upsets develop." Then he went on to tell me how the clinics provide free examination, treatment for bots, dental work, and other such care at special prices.

So, I thought it was about time I checked up on the 1947 clinics. I hustled out to State College and put the question up to Leland Case, in charge of Extension Animal Husbandry there, and he said, sure enough, it was just about time for them again.

"We're scheduling clinics in 67 counties during January," he told me, "and urging every farmer who has workstock in poor condition to check with his county agent on the time and place."

If a team's gonna have what it takes to do heavy spring work, I guess now's a good time to take out a little "hospitalization insurance."

The principal evidences of world starvation today are high death rate among children and older people, increased incidence of disease and death from disease, and inability of an adult to do a day's work.

THE CAROLINA FARMER



Reports from ...

Our Nation's Capital

USDA BUDGET

The Senate is likely to increase House appropriations for the Agriculture Department, but we find no basis for current stories that most of the \$341,000,000 taken out in the lower chamber will be restored.

The Senate Appropriations sub-committee which began hearings this week, expects to report to the full committee about June 23 and the bill probably will not pass the Senate before June 30.

The economy-minded Republican majority in both houses know that it must cut deeply into Federal agency budgets if it is to reduce expenditures by \$4,000,000,000 and Agriculture isn't likely to be a major exception.

Chances are that the Senate will restore a part or all of the Conservation-Production payments deleted by the House, but not a very good chance that House conferees would agree or that the House would accept a major restoration.

About the only certainty is that the appropriations bill won't be passed by Congress before June 30. That will only prolong the uncertainty already created by the sending of severance notices to several thousand USDA employees who won't know whether or not they have jobs.

LAND PRICES

Farm and lending agency leaders refuse to become alarmed about present farm land prices.

Farm organization, government and private lending agency officials talked the matter over this week with Agriculture Secretary Anderson and adopted a rather mild warning against speculative buying and going too heavily into debt.

But it was plain they shared neither President Truman's grave concern nor Anderson's fear of "disaster" and "catastrophe."

Anderson gave the meeting a pep talk of grave-yard seriousness, declaring "we are meeting here today to discuss one of the most important problems facing the American economy."

Bankers and insurance companies who, along with private lenders, are making 75 per cent of all farm loans refused to tear their hair out. They pointed out that the farm debt has declined steadily since start of the war; that the financial position of farmers generally is good.

Instead of the "specific program of methods for discouraging further inflation in farm real estate prices and unwise expansion of farm debts," requested by President Truman, the conference suggested a continuation of the "educational program to caution farmers against incurring heavy debts."

A mild-mannered resolution "recognized the unusual character of the farm income and farm land price situation" and agreed to "discourage borrowing to speculate in farm land or borrowing to buy land at prices which are not justified by long-term income prospects."

It recommended loans based on appraisal of normal earning capacity of farms over a long period of years and called attention to the "more rapid rise which has occurred in the prices of farm lands of low productivity and land which is hazardous for crop and grazing uses."

"Land prices may be inflated," one participant commented, "but so are the dollars used to buy it."

FARM PROGRAM

The time table for enactment of a long-range farm program now has been pushed back to the late spring of 1948.

Because Congress is scheduled to adjourn not later than July 31 the hearings will not be completed at this session. Extensive hearings by both the Senate and House committees will be scheduled for early next session.

Final witness to appear this week was John Brandt, president of the National Cooperative Milk Producers Federation. He proposed a self-financing program resembling in some aspects the old McNary-Haugen program of the 1920s.

Chief feature of the Federation program would be a surplus holding and disposal pool into which seasonal and other surpluses would flow to be held and marketed in such a way as to protect farmers against price-depressing surpluses and consumers against scarcities.

The pool would be administrated by a non-partisan agricultural price and production board created by Congress. The object of the pool would be (1) to insure the continued plentiful supplies of food-stuffs for consumers; (2) to assure adequate returns to farmers; (3) to eliminate undue price fluctuations through more orderly marketing.

Wanted ...

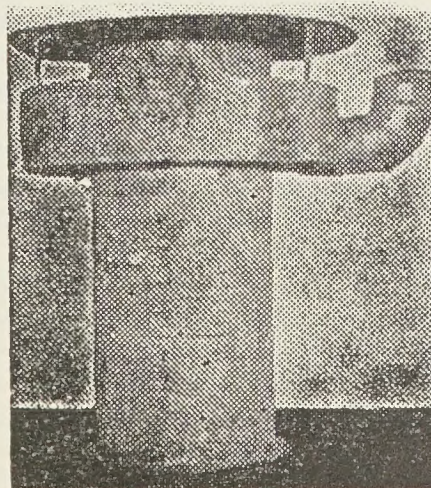
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Research and Tobacco . . .

By W. E. COLWELL

North Carolina Agricultural Experiment Station

REQUENTLY the results of research are spectacular. More frequently, however, they are not. Even so, they may be playing a significant role in the formulation of practices or in serving as a basis for new work in pushing back new frontiers in the field of science. Recent work on the utilization of atomic energy is spectacular. So are the discoveries of DDT or 2-4-D, or of penicillin, and a long list of others. On the other hand, however, the studies of Mendel made nearly a century ago were virtually unnoticed for fifty years. Yet they served as a beginning from which geneticists built a hybrid corn program now meaning millions annually. So it is with tobacco research — some results are spectacular and some are not.

When I was a graduate student at Cornell University, Dr. Richard Bradfield, eminent soil scientist and head of the department of agronomy of that institution, made a statement which I have since remembered, and which I think is appropriate to mention here. It was to this effect: If we try to list the accomplishments all over the world of only the past year's research in any field of science we may be disappointed. We will probably be discouraged to think that no more than that has been accomplished. But, he added, let us consider the contributions of the past five years or of the past ten years and the picture quickly changes. Divide the last ten years' accomplishments by ten and thus arrive at the appropriate portion for any one year and we will see that in any one year considerable progress *was* made.

Tobacco is no exception to these general considerations. On any one day it is difficult to say exactly what we have accomplished, or for that matter, where we are headed. In tobacco we have gone a long way, but much yet remains to be done. I shall elaborate on this statement in the subsequent paragraphs.

First let us examine the curve presented in the accompanying graph. Unbelievable though it may seem, average yields have increased from 464 pounds per acre for the period 1866-1870 to 1010 pounds per acre for the period 1941-1945. This remarkable improvement was not accidental. It

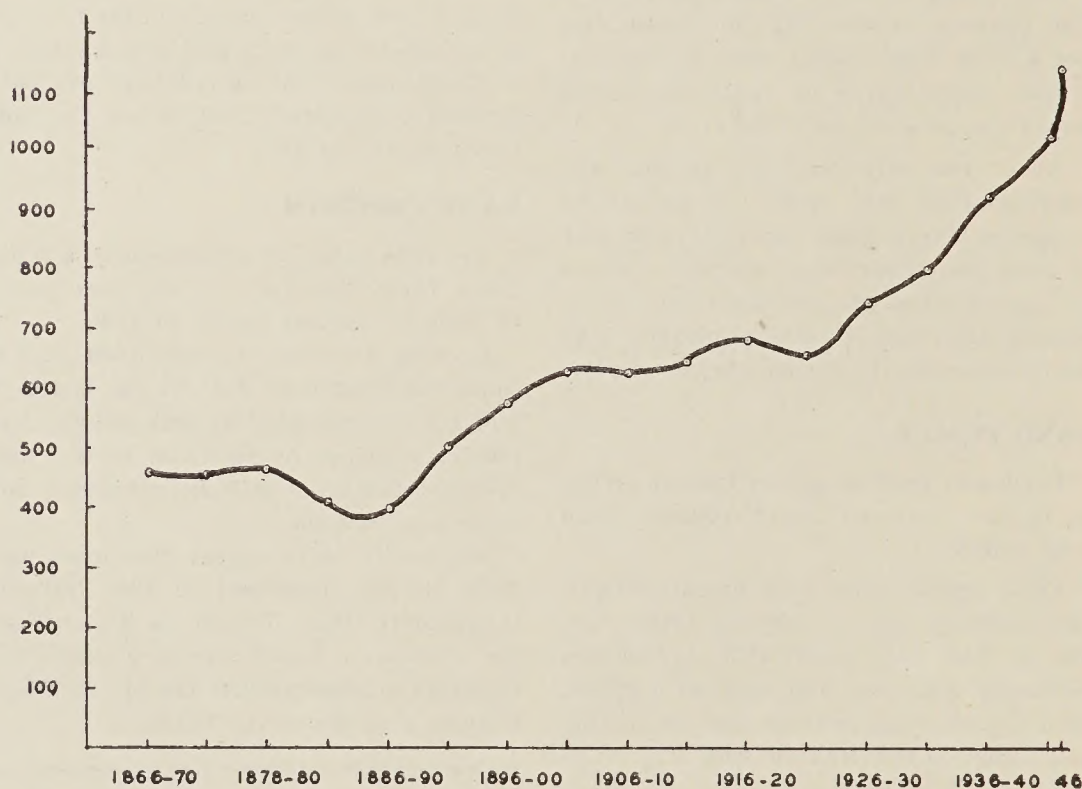
came about as a result of research, not only that by technical staffs of various research agencies, but also by *research conducted by the tobacco grower himself*. Both groups tried new practices, discarded the poor ones, and improved the good ones. As a result growers are now raising more than twice as much tobacco per acre as they did at the turn of the century.

Several practices now followed contribute to this remarkable progress. Higher rates of fertilizer are being used. Nutrient balance is understood better now than it was 25 or even 15 years ago, and fertilizer applications

bination of improvements has resulted in this remarkable progress over the years. Just how much any one factor has itself contributed is of secondary concern.

Scientists are constantly asking themselves "Where do we go from here?" What phases of the problem should be attacked vigorously and what phases should be shelved temporarily? Careful planning is a vital part of any research program and our present research program on tobacco is no exception. We are aiming toward more efficient production and marketing of better quality tobacco.

AVERAGE YIELD FLU-CURED TOBACCO
BY 5 YEAR PERIODS FROM 1866 TO 1946



of 1200 pounds per acre of 3-9-6, for example, have replaced less than half that rate of 2-8-2. More plants per acre is another reason. Instead of 4000 to 5000 plants, it is not uncommon now to produce 6000 to 7000 plants per acre. With 4 feet rows and 20 inches on the drill, there are 6536 plants per acre. Cultural practices have been improved. The soil is better prepared and cultivation methods are better. Topping, suckering, and even priming all have played a role. Varietal improvement has also been a factor. The important thing is that a com-

Emphasis is being placed on efficiency and quality.

From the plant bed to good cigarette tobacco is a long road, but nevertheless the one that tobacco follows and the one that research workers on tobacco must likewise follow. This means that groups of scientists whose training and whose interests are diverse must attack specific problems each of which is a vital link in this long chain. But more than this, it means that the problems of these scientists must be coordinated in such

(Continued on Page 19)

The Beef Cattle Situation in North Carolina

By T. L. GWYN
*North Carolina Department
of Agriculture*

THAT the production of good grade commercial beef cattle in North Carolina has reached a critical stage there can be no question. To anyone who has followed the shipping of cattle in the State for many years and who has attended regularly the various auction markets, it is obvious that the supply of good commercial cattle in North Carolina has probably reached its lowest ebb in the past 25 or 30 years.

Whereas formerly well bred steers were shipped out of Western North Carolina to the terminal markets for beef or to the feed lots of Virginia, Maryland, and Pennsylvania for feeders in train loads, the inter-state movement by rail has declined to a mere handful of single car shipments.

In the auction markets only a few years ago the majority of cattle offered for sale were beef type cattle of good quality and in marketable condition. If you will visit any of these markets today, you will find that the offering of native cattle will consist largely of veal calves of doubtful breeding, old or discarded dairy cows, and a nondescript collection of steers, heifers, and bulls that have neither breeding, quality, nor order and that are neither fit for beef or feeding or grazing purposes. It is small wonder that the customer who goes to a market to buy meat invariably asks for "Western Beef" in preference to native grown.

The reasons for this liquidation of our better cattle are not hard to find. It probably started back during the depression following World War I. Farmers were desperate for a cash income and livestock, especially cattle, was for a while the only salable cash crop. The price was heart breaking but still they sold. Prime steers that are now bringing 28 to 30 cents in the terminal markets sold in Baltimore and other markets at that time for 3½ to 4 cents per pound. Thousands of good cattle that would ordinarily have been held for breeding purposes were thrown on the markets at ruinous prices. These prices went up and cattlemen took heart to go back in business. Barely had the country reached normal when World War II came on with Government control of supply and price. Black markets flourished conditions were uncertain,

the future unpredictable, another depression was freely forecast; and again the livestock men proceeded to liquidate while prices were high and buyers by no means particular as to what they bought. The net result is that the State has never in its history been as short of native beef as it is today. Certainly no one can blame the farmer for producing whatever crop is most profitable and no one can argue that 50 cent tobacco is not more profitable than beef cattle; however, we must remember that eventually there will be a leveling off of all commodity prices and the old law of supply and demand will again prevail. Then the farmer will go back to diversifying his products, of which the production of livestock is a vital and essential part.

In my opinion, the end of Government subsidy of farm products, especially the perishable products, is very near. We have witnessed recently what, in my opinion, is a crime against intelligent agriculture, namely the tragic fate of the Eastern Carolina potato crop. It can hardly be expected that the Government will continue to encourage farmers to produce a crop, buy it at a guaranteed price, and then destroy it. It just does not make sense. North Carolina, a great agricultural State, from the best information we can get is producing just about 15 per cent of the meat consumed in the State.

What I have said of commercial cattle is not true and does not apply to registered herds in the State. A great many fine herds in the past few years have been established in North Carolina and they are a credit both to the State and to their owners. It is obvious, however, to any practical farmer that beef cannot be produced profitably from pedigreed stock. However, it is fortunate for the operators of commercial herds that good bulls to improve the quality of their cattle can be purchased at home at reasonable prices. An increase in the number of commercial herds is equally fortunate for these breeders in providing them a market.

The next question is what are we going to do about it, and what is the best procedure to revive the production of beef cattle in the State? At the competitive beef prices now pre-

vailing on good young cows and heifers over a year old, the initial investment, it seems will be almost prohibitive. In my cattle experience it has always seemed better to grow into the cattle business rather than to buy into it. It seems to me that it is far better to buy good, well bred beef type heifer calves weighing 400 to 500 pounds and grow them into heifers of breeding age rather than buy the older and larger ones at prevailing beef prices. In this way a herd uniform in quality, age, and breeding can be established at less than one half the cost. The cattle will be acclimated and also used to the run of the farm where they are kept and by occasional testing can be kept clean of Bang's or other contagious disease before they become of breeding age. When old enough to breed, a good bull from a reliable herd of cattle can be purchased in almost any section of North Carolina.

The North Carolina Department of Agriculture has in mind a cattle program along this line, namely to first keep as many as possible of the good heifer calves that are suitable to make good grade herd foundation stock off the markets. If the breeders cannot or do not want to keep them themselves, let them try to interest some neighbor in them before putting them on the butcher market. Second, bring into the State in carload shipments from Virginia, Tennessee, West Virginia, or wherever they can be bought, good heifer calves and distribute them from some central point.

To my mind it has always seemed that a sound livestock industry was built up of a large number of small operators who owned and ran their own business rather than a few large ones. If every farmer would keep a few good cattle, sheep, and hogs to utilize what is now probably going to waste, North Carolina would eventually be self-sustaining in meat. I feel that a great service can be rendered by getting our farmers together and getting them interested in organizing local associations through which they can buy, sell, or exchange breeding animals and save the expense and trouble of making individual deals. Such an organization should be non-profit, no dues, and no membership fees.

The Third Ingredient

(Continued from last issue)

By O. HENRY

From

OPTIONS

By O. Henry

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★

"Beg pardon," she said, "butting into what's not my business, but if you peel them potatoes you lose out. They're new Bermudas. You want to scrape 'em. Let me show you."

She took a potato and the knife, and began to demonstrate.

"Oh, thank you," breathed the artist. "I didn't know. And I did hate to see the thick peeling go; it seemed such a waste. But I thought they always had to be peeled. When you've got only potatoes to eat, the peelings count, you know."

"Say, kid," said Hetty, staying her knife, "you ain't up against it, too, are you?"

The miniature artist smiled starvedly.

"I suppose I am. Art—or, at least, the way I interpret it—doesn't seem to be in demand. I have only these potatoes for my dinner. But they aren't so bad boiled and hot, with a little butter and salt."

"Child," said Hetty, letting a brief smile, soften her rigid features. "Fate has sent me and you together. I've had it handed to me in the neck, too; but I've got a chunk of meat in my room as big as a lap-dog. And I've done everything to get potatoes except pray for 'em. Let's me and you bunch our commissary departments and make a stew of 'em. We'll cook it in my room. If we only had an onion to go in it! Say, kid, you haven't got a couple of pennies that've slipped down into the lining of your last winter's sealskin, have you? I could step down to the corner and get one at old Giuseppe's stand. A stew without an onion is worse'n a matinee without candy."

"You may call me Cecilia," said the artist. "No; I spent my last penny three days ago."

"Then we'll have to cut the onion out instead of slicing it in," said Hetty. "I'd ask the janitress for one, but I don't want 'em hep just yet to the fact that I'm pounding the asphalt for another job. But I wish we did have an onion."

In the shop-girl's room the two began to prepare their supper. Cecilia's part was to sit on the couch helplessly and beg to be allowed to do something, in the voice of a cooing ring-dove. Hetty prepared the rib beef, putting it in cold salted water in the stew-pan and setting it on the one-burner gas-stove.

"I wish we had an onion," said Hetty, as she scraped the two potatoes. On the wall opposite the couch was pinned a flaming, gorgeous advertising picture of one of the new ferry-boats of the P. U. F. F. Railroad that had been built to cut down the time between Los Angeles and New York City one eighth of a minute.

Hetty, turning her head during her continuous monologue, saw tears running from her guest's eyes as she gazed on the idealized presentment of the speeding, foam-girdled transport.

"Why, say, Cecilia, kid," said Hetty, poisoning her knife, "is it as bad art as that? I ain't a critic, but I thought it kind of brightened up the room. Of course, a manicure-painter could tell it was a bum picture in a minute. I'll take it down if you say so. I wish to the holy Saint Potluck we had an onion."

But the miniature miniature-painter had tumbled down, sobbing, with her nose indenting the hard-woven drapery of the couch. Something was here deeper than the artistic temperament offended at crude lithography.

Hetty knew. She had accepted her role long ago. How scant the words with which we try to describe a single quality of a human being. When we reach the abstract we are lost. The nearer to Nature that the babbling of our lips comes, the better do we understand. Figuratively (let us say), some people are Bosoms, some are Hands, some are Heads, some are Muscles, some are Feet, some are Backs for burdens.

Hetty was a shoulder. Her's was a sharp, sinewy shoulder; but all her life people had laid their heads upon it, metaphorically or actually, and had left there all or half of their troubles. Look at Life anatomically, which is as good a way as any, she was preordained to be a Shoulder. There were few truer collar-bones anywhere than hers.

Hetty was only 31, and she had not

yet out-lived the little pang that visited her whenever the head of youth and beauty leaned upon her for consolation. But one glance in her mirror always served as an instantaneous pain-killer. So she gave one pale look into the crinkly old looking-glass on the wall above the gas-stove, turned down the flame a little lower from the bubbling beef and potatoes, went over to the couch, and lifted Cecilia's head to its confessional.

"Go on and tell me, honey," she said. "I know now that it ain't art that's worrying you. You met him on a ferry-boat, didn't you? Go on, Cecilia, kid, and tell your—your Aunt Hetty about it."

But youth and melancholy must first spend the surplus of sighs and tears that waft and float the barque of romance to its harbor in the delectable isles. Presently, through the stringy tendons that formed the bars of the confessional, the penitent—or was it the glorified communicant of the sacred flame?—told her story without art or illumination.

"It was only three days ago. I was coming back on the ferry from Jersey City. Old Mr. Schrum, an art dealer, told me of a rich man in Newark who wanted a miniature of his daughter painted. I went to see him and showed him some of my work. When I told him the price would be \$50 he laughed at me like a hyena. He said an enlarged crayon 20 times the size would cost him only \$8."

"I had just enough money to buy my ferry ticket back to New York. I felt as if I didn't want to live another day. I must have looked as I felt, for I saw him on the row of seats opposite me, looking at me as if he understood. He was nice looking, but, oh, above everything else, he looked kind. When one is tired or unhappy or hopeless, kindness counts more than anything else.

"When I got so miserable that I couldn't fight against it any longer, I got up and walked slowly out the rear door of the ferry-boat cabin. No one was there, and I slipped quickly over the rail, and dropped into the water. Oh, friend Hetty, it was cold, cold.

"For just one moment I wished I was back in the old Vallambrosa, starving and hoping. And then I got numb, and didn't care. And then I felt that somebody else was in the

water close by me, holding me up. He had followed me, and jumped in to save me.

"Somebody threw a thing like a big, white doughnut at us, and he made me put my arms through the hole. Then the ferry-boat backed, and they pulled us on board. Oh, Hetty, I was so ashamed of my wickedness in trying to drown myself; and, beside, my hair had all tumbled down and was sopping wet, and I was such a sight.

"And then some men in blue clothes came around; and he gave them his card, and I heard him tell them he had seen me drop my purse on the edge of the boat outside the rail, and in leaning over to get it I had fallen over-board. And then I remembered having read in the papers that people who try to kill themselves are locked up in cells with people who try to kill other people, and I was afraid.

"But some ladies on the boat took me downstairs to the furnace-room and got me nearly dry and did up my hair. When the boat landed, he came and put me in a cab. He was all dripping himself, but laughed as if he thought it all a joke. He begged me, but I wouldn't tell him my name nor where I lived, I was so ashamed."

"You were a fool, child," said Hetty, kindly. "Wait till I turn the light up a bit. I wish to Heaven we had an onion."

"Then he raised his hat," went on Cecilia, "and said: 'Very well. But I'll find you, anyhow. I'm going to claim my rights of salvage.' Then he gave money to the cab-driver and told him to take me where I wanted to go, and walked away. What is salvage, Hetty?"

"The edge of a piece of goods that ain't hemmed," said the shop-girl. "You must have looked pretty well frazzled out to the little hero boy."

"It's been three days," moaned the miniature-painter, "and he hasn't found me yet."

"Extend the time," said Hetty. "This is a big town. Think of how many girls he might have to see soaked in water with their hair down before he would recognize you. The stew's getting on fine—but, oh, for an onion! I'd even use a piece of garlic if I had it."

The beef and potatoes bubbled merrily, exhaling a mouth-watering savor that yet lacked something, leaving a hunger on the palate, a haunting, wistful desire for some lost and needful ingredient.

"I came near drowning in that awful river," said Cecilia, shuddering.

"It ought to have more water in it," said Hetty; "the stew I mean. I'll go get some at the sink."

"It smells good," said the artist.

"That nasty old North River?" objected Hetty. "It smells to me like soap factories and wet setter-dogs—oh, you mean the stew. Well, I wish we had an onion for it. Did he look like he had money?"

"First he looked kind," said Cecilia. "I'm sure he was rich; but that matters so little. When he drew out his bill-folder to pay the cabman you couldn't help seeing hundreds and thousands of dollars in it. And I looked over the cab doors and saw

him leave the ferry station in a motor-car; and the chauffeur gave him his bearskin to put on, for he was sopping wet. And it was only three days ago."

"What a fool," said Hetty shortly.

"Oh, the chauffeur wasn't wet," breathed Cecilia. "And he drove the car away very nicely."

"I mean you," said Hetty. "For not giving him your address."

"I never give my address to chauffeurs," said Cecilia, haughtily.

"I wish we had one," said Hetty, disconsolately.

"What for?"

(Continued in next issue)

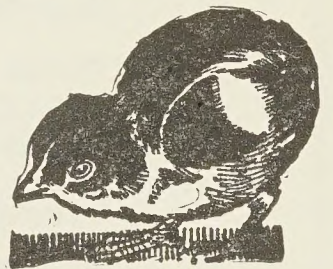
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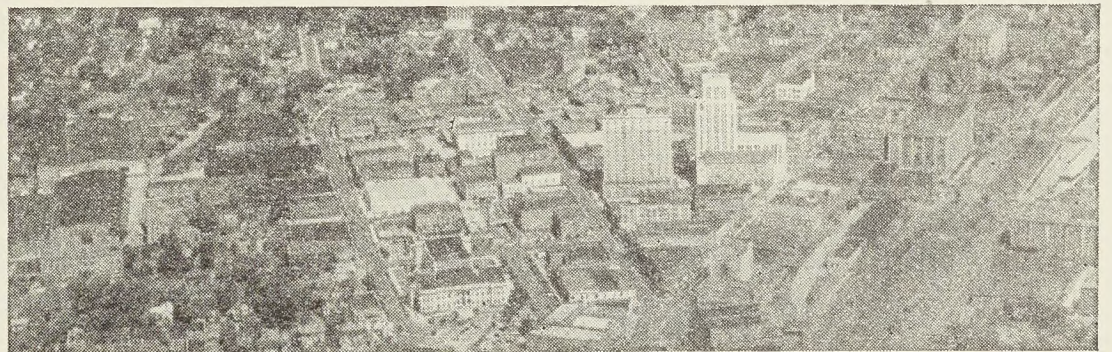
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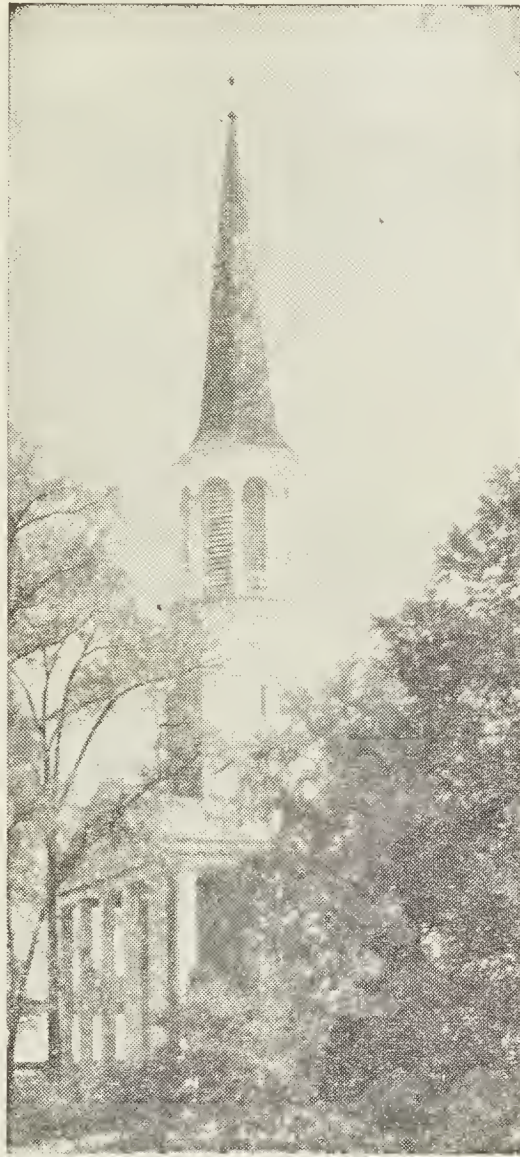
Executive Secretary, Chamber of Commerce
 Box 277, Chadbourn, N. C.

God in the Open Spaces

By REV. RUSSELL S. HARRISON

AMONG the most interesting sections of America today is that of the "Banks" of North Carolina. Until more recent years this area was isolated from the rest of the state, and just as much or more from the rest of the world. Men and women lived and died on the "Banks," never having visited the mainland. And men and women from the near mainland never visited the "Banks," except on very rare occasions. To those people of far eastern Carolina, isolation was the order of their years. But out of that isolation were developed strong characters. Facing the great Atlantic as they looked each morning to the rising sun, and watching that same sun set in the waters of the great sounds to the west—accustomed to winds that in time of storm flung great sheets of ocean spray across their narrow strips of sand, and in more normal times picked up that sand to drive it through your clothes, into your hair, your eyes, your mouth and nose,—those people developed a hardiness and courage and stability that made for adequacy. Pitted against the elements of all times—sailing the waters in search of their livelihood, rescuing men from ships driven aground by the action of wind and wave—those men developed a confidence and trust in themselves as perhaps could not have come otherwise. But at the same time, this self-assure of theirs sprang from something beyond themselves. They were intimately acquainted with the "God in the open spaces." They knew Him who was Lord of the wind and waves, who had set the stars in their courses and made the tides to ebb and flow. Yes, it was from this God who was everywhere about them, and who dwelt in their hearts, that they received the wisdom and strength to live and die as strong, stalwart sons and daughters of their Creator.

But has it not always been so? Back in the beginnings of man's history God was best able to reveal himself to his children in the great "open spaces." When Abram first set out from Ur to go up to Haran it was to get away from the restricting and soul-destroying gods of the city temples. When he went "out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance," he built his tabernacles, or dwelling places, in the open spaces, where his spirit was nat-



turally drawn to the God of the countryside. During this time, however, we receive interesting insight into the life of the city. Abraham's nephew, Lot, it seems, leaned toward living in the city. In the Biblical account, there follows a most interesting picture of how men, in cities, appear to move further and further away from God. Sodom and Gomorrah are portrayed as dens of iniquity, where human personality was regarded only for satisfaction of base, sensual desires.

Moving on down through Israel's history, let us next take a look at Moses. Where did Moses really come to greatness? Was it in Pharaoh's court? Hardly! It was in the land of Midian, while tending Jethro's flock, on the backside of the desert, in the mountain of God, that the "angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush," before which he took his shoes from off his feet, rec-

ognizing that place as holy ground. Again, in later years, while leading the children of Israel through this same wilderness on their way to Canaan, when wrangling and confusion caused those same children to cry out for the fleshpots of Egypt, Moses went apart into the "open spaces" of Mount Sinai, where again he faced God, and received from Him the great Commandments, chiseled on tablets of stone, but cut even deeper in the hearts of those who had found "God in the open spaces."

Taking a next great step across the ages, we come to a little village called Bethlehem, of Judea. There, in the stable of an inn, God made his personal appearance in the form of a little child. And who, again, was most aware of the presence of God there? It was not the inn-keeper, the census-takers, the soldiers, or the town's leading citizenry. No, it was not to such as these, but to the shepherds "abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night" that the angel of the Lord came to make God's glory to shine round about them. So, it was out in the fields, with "God in the open spaces," that a multitude of the heavenly host joined the angel in praising God through song: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."

What, then, does all this say to us? Is God to be found in the city? Yes, he is; but it is easier to find Him in the great "open spaces." The secular atmosphere and artificiality of much of the city's life make vague and indistinct the God who hovers there, "where cross the crowded ways of life." For that reason, God calls most of his ministers from rural areas. And even the life of the city churches finds its spiritual invigoration chiefly through those who found their Lord back in the country church, or along the country lanes, or out in the fields, where God's very presence broke through with something of the same brilliance as at Midian or under the stars with the shepherds at Bethlehem. Truly, the soul of man finds its best affinity with God out where men know the feel of the good earth, are acquainted with the seasons, observe the wind's blowing, the morning dew, and the canopy of heaven. Yes, it is with the "God of the open spaces" that our souls find their peace, and rest.

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New Rotary Potato Digger

A simple farm implement to speed the harvesting of sweet potatoes, known as a rotary digger, has been invented by H. B. Howard, veteran sweet potato grower of Pittsburg, Camp County, Texas, and will be placed on the market this month.

Built to be attached to either a tractor or walking plow, the digger turns the soil over the vines and gently drops the potatoes on top of the ground without bruising or skinning. Field tests show that the new device salvages from 15 to 20 bushels more

at the lowest possible figure so that the farmer with a few acres in potatoes and the one with larger acreage, alike, could benefit from the use of the machine," Mr. Howard said. "I have spent 43 years in the sweet potato growing business and my ambition in life is to forward this industry. The rotary digger puts an end to the old-fashioned method of 'scratching' and makes it possible for the farmer and his family to harvest their own crop without employing extra labor. It will pay for itself in



H. B. Howard of Pittsburg, Texas, inventor and manufacturer of the Rotary Digger for the harvesting of sweet potatoes, is shown here with the new implement.

per acre, cuts the labor bill in half, and can also be used effectively for flat-breaking the land.

Manufacture of the rotary digger began early in April in Pittsburg by the Howard Manufacturing Company with Mr. Howard and his sons, O. B. and H. B., Jr., as partners in the enterprise.

The rotary digger will be put on the market at a price within the reach of all farmers, Mr. Howard said.

"When I invented this digger, my first thought was to keep the prices

the digging of the first few acres and will last a life-time."

When the acute labor shortage of recent years threatened to wipe out the sweet potato industry, Mr. Howard decided a method must be found to expedite the digging and harvesting of the fancy yams. Experimenting, he hit on the rotary plan of digging by accident.

He rebuilt the machine many times during the testing period of the last year. The rotary digger replaces the mold-board in the plowing up of potatoes. The first step in the easy

process of installing the digger behind a tractor or horse-drawn plow calls for cutting off a large section of the mold-board, thus giving the spiral sifter a free swing to turn the soil. Approximately 18 inches long, the digger has a shaft 2 inches in diameter, encircled by a spiral sifter which extends from the top to the base.

Well-known by farmers throughout Texas and the Southwest, the inventor of the rotary digger is often spoken of as "the sweet potato man." Devoting his entire business career to improving and commercializing the sweet potato, Mr. Howard put the first label on sweet potatoes back in 1920, and in the past 25 years has helped to build this industry into a million dollar business in Camp County. He has made a close study of curing, storing and shipping yams, and through application of this study developed what is known as the "perfect pack" which now is shipped to the large markets of the United States and Canada.

Details for Harvester Of Sweet Potato Vines Given in Bulletin

Complete details on construction and use of the Sweet Potato Vine-Row Harvester, which was developed at the N. C. Agricultural Experiment Station, are now available to the general public.

The machine, developed under the supervision of G. W. Giles of the Agricultural Engineering Department, is designed to harvest the sweet potato vines so that they may be used as a livestock feed.

Several years ago, the N. C. Station published a circular which pointed out that "good silage can be made from sweet potato vines, or a mixture of vines and roots. In fact, this silage has been shown to be as good as corn silage for feeding dairy cattle."

However, at the time the circular was written, no machine was on the market for harvesting the vines.

A description of the "Vine-Row" operation of it, and construction details are among the topics discussed and illustrated in the bulletin.

Free copies of the publication are available from the Agricultural Editor, State College Station, Raleigh. Request should be made for "The Sweet Potato Vine-Row Harvester," N. C. Agricultural Experiment Station Bulletin No. 358.



WILSON

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Official Program of ^{The Sixth Annual} ^{North Carolina} To

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Thursday, August 14, 1947

- 9:00 A. M.—Registration of Princesses and Out-of-State Court of Honor at Cherry Hotel.
- 9:00 A. M.—Festival Merchants Window Decorating Contest Judging.
- 10:30 A. M.—Contest to Select Queen of the Festival at Wilson Theatre.
- 1:00 P. M.—Luncheon for Festival Princesses and Out-of-State Court of Honor, Cherry Hotel.
- 2:00 P. M.—Tobacco Auctioneer Contest at Banner Warehouse.
- 2:30 P. M.—Southern Open Invitational AAU Swimming Championships at Wilson Municipal Swimming Pool.
- 5:00 P. M.—Bathing Beauty Contest at Wilson Municipal Pool.
- 7:45 P. M.—Coastal Plain League Baseball Game — Wilson vs. Roanoke Rapids — Wilson Municipal Stadium.
- 8:30 P. M.—Square Dance in Front of Wilson Court House (Nash Street).

WILSON, N. C.



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Tobacco Exposition and Festival

AT WILSON

INVITED TO ATTEND

Friday, August 15, 1947

- 11:00 A. M.—Festival Floral Street Parade.
- 1:00 P. M.—Barbecue Luncheon.
- 2:00 P. M.—Farmer's Day Program at Wilson Municipal Stadium.
- 6:00 P. M.—"Chesterfield Supper Club" Broadcast.
- 7:45 P. M.—Coronation of 1947 Festival Queen at Wilson Municipal Stadium.
- 9:30 P. M.—Coronation Ball at Big Star Warehouse — Tex Beneke and the Glen Miller Orchestra.

Pre-Festival Event, August 13, 1947

On the afternoon and evening of Wednesday, August 13, the Wilson Rotary Club in co-operation with the Festival is sponsoring the preliminaries of the second annual Southern Invitational AAU Swimming Championships.

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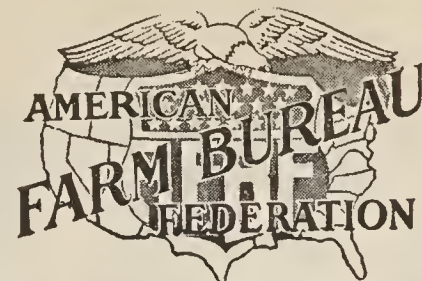
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Farm Bureau . . .



100,000 Membership Quota Set as State Farm Bureau Goal for 1947

After obtaining the expression of County Farm Bureau Leaders throughout North Carolina in District Farm Bureau Meetings held in the early spring and a State Board of Directors Meeting, a state quota of 100,000 members (100,000 families) was set for this year. This quota was set up on a democratic basis, as this matter was taken to the local level as all other matters are when developed through the Farm Bureau. Counties will receive their membership quotas in the near future, based on their pro rata part of the state quota.

In considering the state quota that was set for this year, consideration was given to the position that we farmers are going to be in after 1948 unless a long-range farm program is re-written and approved by Congress during the next session. Considerable opposition throughout the country is developing daily with reference to present price support programs, and ways and means of coordinating agricultural agencies that would reflect a greater service to the American Farmer and at the same time be operated on a far more efficient basis than at present.

There are many groups who do not feel that the farmer is entitled to receive a guarantee of 90% of parity for his farm commodities. In this connection, I would like to raise the question as to how you can justify guaranteeing the average employee a minimum wage and at the same time not guarantee the farmer a price for his agricultural commodities that to some extent will reflect wages in line with those being paid to other comparable groups.

Much to the contrary of public opinion, the farm price support policy has not been a major factor in current farm prices. In fact, the price support program through protecting farmers against any such disaster as that which overtook them after World War I, has eased the situation by encouraging a higher output for Agriculture. Many farm commodities today are retailing at a retail level twice or three times as high as the price support for that particular commodity. If support prices become operative, it should be considered a fortunate circumstance rather than a cause for resentment against

farmers, as prices received under price support programs do not reflect a reasonable profit to the farmer after the cost of production has been considered. Many of the price supports result in the farmer being able to about break even without giving any consideration to his own labor or that of his family in producing a particular commodity. If the farmer is to continue to receive nearer his fair share of the national income than he did prior to the early thirties, then it is going to be necessary for them to unite their efforts which can only accomplish the desired results by joining a streamlined farm organization.

The American Farm Bureau was set up on a national level in the early 20's to form the "missing link" that existed at that time among the agencies in the field of Agriculture. The leaders who pioneered this movement had in mind that they would not duplicate or overlap any existing agency but would go a little farther in getting the job done than had been the case up until that time. There are very few pieces of major farm legislation that have been enacted by Congress since that time that the American Farm Bureau did not support. This has become particularly true in late years when the combined farm family membership has reached an all-time high level for any farm organization in the world—now consisting of 1,128,000.

In order to maintain some of the gains that have been made in Agriculture since the early 20's, it is necessary that the farmers in the South unite themselves in order to form a solid front. If we farmers in North Carolina are to keep step with the pace that is being set by other state Farm Bureaus in attaining membership this year, we must reach our quota. Last year, as many of you know, North Carolina showed the biggest per cent increase in Farm Bureau Membership of any state in the Union.

Beginning September 1, the district Farm Bureau Meetings will be held in different sections of North Carolina for the purpose of discussing some of the current problems facing agriculture and ways and means of solving these problems. Details of the membership drive likewise will be discussed at these meetings.

Grange Gleanings...

Annual North Carolina State Grange Youth Camp Opened July 28

The annual N. C. State Grange Youth Camp opened July 28th at the Tom Browne FFA Camp at Barnardsville, N. C., according to an announcement by Mrs. Harry B. Caldwell, State Grange Master.

An outstanding program had been arranged with daily conferences conducted by Dr. Earl W. Sheets, Washington, D. C., Assistant to the National Grange Master. Dr. Sheets is a nationally known agricultural leader having formerly been Chief of the Bureau of Animal Industry of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Other Counselors in charge of various activities were as follows: J. Hall Campbell, Greensboro; Miss Sarah Lackey, Lenior; Mrs. T. W. Ferguson, Ferguson; Mrs. Norman Alexander, Burlington; Mrs. W. Lee Meredith, Trinity; Mrs. John Davis, Thomasville; Miss Ethel Reich, Winston-Salem; Mr. B. L. Angell, Winston-Salem; and Mr. W. Lee Meredith, Trinity. The Counselors met at 2 o'clock July 28th for the first staff meeting at which time final camping plans were completed.

The first program began Monday evening at 8 o'clock, with devotional services in charge of Marjorie Bishop of Ferguson, N. C.

Mr. B. L. Angell, Winston-Salem, N. C. conducted daily courses in Handicraft for

the boys. Mrs. A. Crouse Jones, Winston-Salem, N. C. was in charge of Arts and Crafts for the girls.

James G. K. McClure, President of the Farmers Federation, Asheville, N. C. was guest speaker Tuesday, July 29th, after which educational movies were presented. Wednesday, July 30th was Amateur Night with John W. Farlow, Jr., Trinity, presiding. Thursday night all of the Grange Youth participated in a Model Grange program under the Direction of Mr. W. Lee Meredith, Trinity, N. C. Friday night Dr. Sheets, Mrs. Caldwell, Mr. Campbell, former Grange Master and others were the speakers.

Officers of the Grange Youth organization are as follows:

John Walter Farlow, Jr., President, Sophia, N. C.

Ray A. Cline, Vice-President, Concord, North Carolina.

Emily Ballinger, Secretary, Guilford College, N. C.

J. W. Hedrick, Treasurer, Lexington, North Carolina.

Ann Trogdon, Program Chairman, Greensboro, N. C.

Marjorie Bishop, Chaplain, Ferguson, North Carolina.

Polly Lambeth, Publicity Chairman, Guilford College, N. C.

Aluminum Wire for Bale Ties

The nation's farmers can prevent the loss of \$100,000,000 worth of hay and straw from this year's crop threatened by a shortage of bale ties made from steel, by making up the deficiency with ties made from aluminum, Frank R. Nichols, president of the Nichols Wire and Steel Company here, stated on completion of a survey of on-farm needs and tie production potentials. There is an ample supply of aluminum wire compared with an acute scarcity of steel wire, he said.

Farmers will need 143,200 tons of steel ties this year, it is estimated by the department of agriculture, but actual production will be far under this figure, he declared. Last year only 127,757 tons of steel ties were manufactured and even less will be made this year, Mr. Nichols forecast.

The deficiency between needs and manufacture of ties spells the loss of some 5,000,000 tons of hay and straw, averaging \$20.00 a ton at today's prices as estimated

by Fred K. Sale, Secretary and Treasurer of the National Hay Association. Unless properly baled for shipment the products will go to waste. While aluminum bale ties cost more than those from steel, the difference is negligible compared with the over-all savings, Mr. Nichols stated. The additional cost for aluminum ties over steel ties at a legitimate price is only 75 cents per ton of hay baled. This higher cost is offset almost entirely when black market prices for steel ties are paid.

At the behest of several farmer organizations, the Nichols company, which manufactures aluminum wire, has swung into the production of aluminum bale ties, he stated. While his company cannot fill the need for ties, it stands ready to furnish aluminum wire to other manufacturers with the capacity to make bale ties, Mr. Nichols announced. A great deal of the shortage can be made up by the combined production of his and other companies in the field, Mr. Nichols feels.

CHAPEL HILL BLUE CROSS



Memo to TAR HEEL FARMERS



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protect yourself
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against unexpected
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SERVICE
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CHAPEL HILL, N. C.

North Carolina Tobacco Exposition AND FESTIVAL

Wilson, N. C.—August 14-15, 1947

With Tex Beneke and the Glenn Miller orchestra playing for the Coronation Ball and for a "Chesterfield Supper Club" broadcast here in Wilson, North Carolina—with the 82nd Airborne Division band and the Marine band from Camp Lejeune playing for the parade—and with scores of North Carolina's prettiest girls competing for the honor of becoming Queen of the fiesta, the North Carolina Tobacco Exposition and Festival will be held in Wilson on August 14 and 15 this year.

There'll be plenty of music, fun, entertainment and other type events at the Festival this year. It will be the first time since 1941 that the festival has been held.

There will be a pre-festival show on August 13 when the Second Annual South-

By JOHN G. THOMAS

Governor R. Gregg Cherry will be here on August 15 to review the parade while J. B. Hutson, former Undersecretary of Agriculture and now president of Tobacco Associates, Inc. will also be there that day and speak at a farmer's day event in the afternoon at the Wilson Municipal Stadium. At the same time that afternoon there will be such things as scholarships to college, heifers, hogs, corn planters given away to those present.

That night the Festival Queen will be crowned at a Coronation Ceremony while later that night the Coronation Ball will be held. Tex Beneke and the Glenn Miller Band will play for the dance and at 6 P.M. and again at 10 P.M. the band will

Queen Anne Gwyn Robertson will preside over the Festival this year until a new Queen is crowned.

"Miss Wilson" nee Ada Gray Coley will act as hostess to the festival.

Facilities at Wilson Market Rank at Top

By A. B. BOSWELL
Supervisor of Sales

Rapidly completing its preparation for the opening day on Monday, August 25th, the Wilson Tobacco Market will offer the Tobacco Farmers of Eastern North Carolina facilities for the efficient sale of Tobacco that have never before equalled by any market.

Warehouses are giving their equipment a thorough checking and are painting and washing and putting an OK on everything to be used, when the millions of pounds of bright leaf are being handled this season. There has been a tremendous amount of floor space added to the ever growing Wilson Tobacco Market, but a system of selling has been arranged so that when a farmer places his tobacco on the floor he will know when it will be sold, therefore, not causing him to lose a lot of valuable time away from his farm duties.

Factory redrying equipment is in excellent shape, and as an addition to the already huge capacity for handling leaf, which is greater than any other market, some new machines have been installed.

Company officials announce a personnel in their five sets of buyers that is not to be surpassed anywhere. These buyers have long years of experience in the purchasing of tobacco, and offer all farmers the highest money for each basket sold.



SWIMMIN' IN TOBACCO—The above picture was taken while a bevy of Wilson, N. C., beauties were caught swimmin' through a field of tobacco on their way to the North Carolina Tobacco Exposition and Festival, to be held in Wilson on August 14 and 15.

ern Invitational Open AAU Swimming Championships open at the Municipal Pool in Wilson. These championships will last through the first day of the Festival on August 14 when they will be climaxed on that afternoon late by the Tobacco Festival Bathing Beauty contest.

Some two score girls from all over North Carolina are expected here for the competition for Queen of the Festival. Besides this, young ladies will be coming here representing five southern states—Florida, South Carolina, Tennessee, Kentucky and Virginia. These young ladies will be in a court of good will of the Festival.

broadcast the "Chesterfield Supper Club" from the warehouse where the dance will be held.

News reel companies will attend the Festival at which time a Tobacco Auctioneer's contest will be held.

A great Festival parade will be held on August 15 at 11 in the morning. A score of floats, bands, marching units and the like will participate in this event including Marine and army units from Fort Bragg and Camp LeJeune.

Bands will include the Marine band, the 82nd Airborne band, high school bands from Wilson, Wilmington, Kinston, Raleigh, Washington.

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RESEARCH AND TOBACCO

(Continued from Page 6)

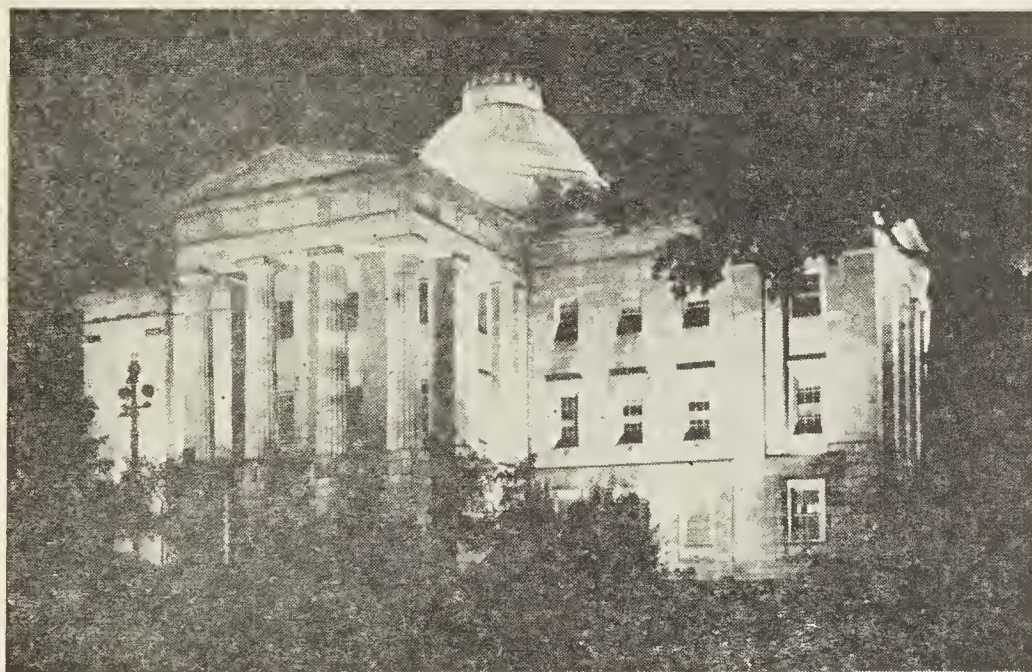
a way that no weak link will handicap the overall progress. A research program of this nature and magnitude is now being expanded in North Carolina. Several research agencies are cooperating, all as one, pushing ahead toward the same goal.

The agronomists, pathologists and entomologists and engineers are attacking the plant bed problem. Pathologists, as well as geneticists, are working towards better tobacco varieties. A single variety of superior quality which contains the combined resistance of granville wilt, black shank, black root rot, root knot, fus-

arium wilt, mosaic, blue mold, wild-fire, and possibly other is set as a long time goal. Pathologists are seeking also, other means of controlling troublesome diseases. The agronomists are working toward better rotations, and better means of fertilizing North Carolina's No. 1 crop. With the economists they are aiming toward better balanced farming systems. The engineers are striving to increase the efficiency of the curing operation and are looking to the development of machinery for use in cultural operations as well as in marketing. The economists are also interested in both the production and marketing phases. Entomologists are tracking down new leads on the control of troublesome

insects, especially the wire worm, which has eluded scientists for years. Playing a significant role in virtually all these studies is the biochemistry laboratory. Quality of tobacco cannot be lowered, no matter how efficient any new practice might be. On the other hand, means of increasing quality are being sought constantly.

Facilities are now available to give certain of these problems more attention than has been possible heretofore. Both Burley and Turkish tobacco are vital parts of the program. Although each has its own specific problems, a number such as plant bed management, disease, insect control and others are closely related to those encountered in flue cured tobacco.



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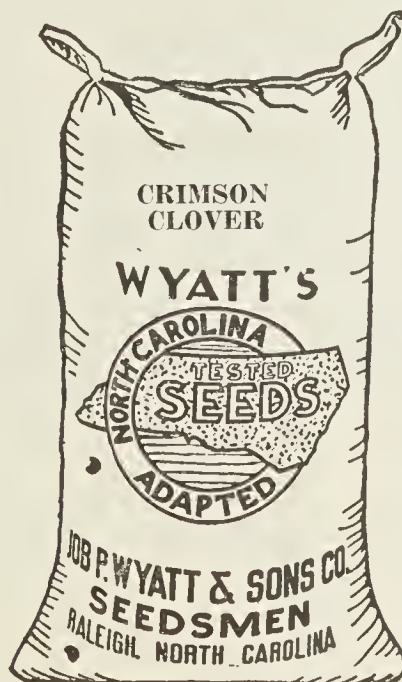
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.. The Carolina Homemaker ..



DOROTHY THOMPSON

Miss Dorothy Thompson, noted journalist and world traveler, has accepted an invitation to speak at Farm and Home Week, to be held on the State College campus, August 25-29, as a function of the Extension Service and cooperating farm organizations. Present plans call for the nationally known writer to speak before a special meeting of the women at the Raleigh City Auditorium the morning of August 28 at 11 o'clock.

Final Plans Being Made For Farm and Home Week

With final plans rapidly shaping up for 1947 Farm and Home Week which will be held on State College campus August 25-29, it is hoped this year's event will be an outstanding one to the more than 5,000 farm men and women expected to attend.

Lectures by such outstanding National speakers as Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, Dorothy Thompson, and Congressman Stephen Pace are scheduled. These talks will relate to state, national and international affairs affecting rural people. Other outstanding speakers during the week include: Dr. T. B. Hutcheson, outstanding personality in southern agriculture and Dean of School of Agriculture at Virginia Polytechnic Institute, Blacksburg, Va.; J. B. Hutson, newly elected president of the board of directors of Tobacco Associates, Inc.; and Thomas J. Pearsall, former speaker of the House of Representatives.

There will be a series of talks and discussions, many of them held on the day at the same hour in order to give each

person a chance to attend the one in which he is most interested. These periods will deal primarily with new and improved methods and procedures for farm and home activities. They will include such factors as crop and livestock production, farm mechanization, rural health, family relationships, home food supply, labor saving devices, and other points involved in family living.

New home equipment with emphasis on electrical appliances; the latest in farm machinery; and new methods in crop production and processing will be featured in exhibits, as well as a number of demonstrations relating to both the home and the farm.

Not forgetting the recreational side of the week, arrangements have been made for visitors to see places of historical interest in Raleigh, and visits will be made to the college farms. There will also be group singing, square dances, contests and prizes and other features.

Real Palmetto Peaches

Peaches are very much in evidence in the South Carolina Piedmont as school girls join in to help the farmers harvest



a bumper crop of one of the South's most famous products.

Spartanburg County is the chief peach-growing area of the Palmetto State, followed by Greenville, Pickens, York and Cherokee counties.

Last year South Carolina produced 9,396 carlots of peaches—over 2,000 carlots ahead of the next largest peach-producing state.

Hints to Homemakers

By Verna Stanton

To achieve a smooth consistency in some dishes made with milk, adding the ingredients in the right order is an important detail. If added at the wrong time it can cause separation or curdling, cookery scientists of the U. S. Department of Agriculture advise.

When milk is to be combined with an acid food, the right order is: Acid food into milk. For example, in making cream of tomato soup, the hot thickened tomato should be added gradually to the cool milk. Then the mixture is heated briefly and served immediately. Likewise in making milk sherbert with an acid fruit juice such as lemon, the fruit juice after sweetening is added gradually to the milk.

In all such mixtures the combining should be done gradually with constant stirring to avoid separation. When the mixture must be heated, the heating should be as brief as possible and at a low temperature.

Never use knives or rough scouring materials to clean glass cooking ware, household management specialists of the U. S. Department of Agriculture say. Scraping with a knife or scouring with steel wool may scratch the protective surface of the glass and eventually lead to a crack. Even a slight scratch may make the glass less resistant to breakage.

Generally, glass cooking utensils need only soaking in lukewarm water and then washing in soapsuds for thorough cleaning. Adding baking soda to the soaking water may help loosen food that has baked on. If some brown traces still remain, remove them by rubbing with dry baking soda.

Use kitchen scissors to save time. Cut parsley, celery, pimiento, and string beans with them. Use wet scissors for dicing sticky foods such as chicken, dates and marshmallows.

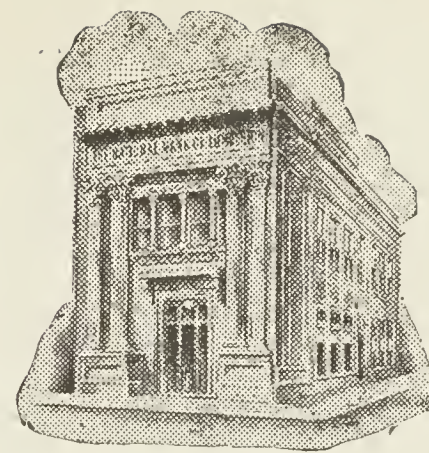
KERNELS OF CORN

A test made by the Iowa agricultural experiment station in 1936 showed that when corn with an average germination of 75 and 60 percent was planted at rates of 4 and 5 kernels per hill — in comparison with a rate of 3 kernels per hill for corn of average germination—the resulting stand and yield were practically the same.

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GROWING THE SPRING BEEF CALVES

Good pastures should form the basis of growing the spring beef calf. There is nothing that will grow a calf faster than a plentiful supply of milk. Abundant pasture of high quality is the best and most practical feed for milk production. Although these two statements are certainly true it does not mean that the beef producer can forget about his cattle when he turns them on pasture in the spring. Some men have a tendency to do this and neglect is especially apt to occur among cash crop farmers in our area who become overly busy with their crops at this season.

The herd and pastures should be inspected at least once a week throughout the grazing season. It is preferable for the cattle to have access to salt at all times and they should certainly not be salted less than once or twice a week. An abundant supply of good pure water should be available at all times. It is surprising how quick an apparently reliable source of water will disappear during a hot dry spell. Frequent inspections are needed to check on this as well as on the general health of the cows and calves.

Occasionally a calf may become crippled or separated from his mother and unless attended to will die or make very poor gains during the summer. Or for some reason a cow may go almost dry which is very serious for her nursing calf.

Watch Your Pastures:

Most pastures are good at this time of year but many forage plants soon become tough and unpalatable as the season advances. Even woods pastures, especially in the coastal plain can frequently be relied on for reasonably good grazing and brows for from one to two months during spring and early summer. A great many of the plants found in woods pastures, such as wire grass, brome sedge and the leaves from hardwood bushes soon become tough. When this



Carolina Dairy and

occurs cows can not be expected to milk well or fatten. If woods pastures are used best results will be obtained if the cattle are moved to lespedeza or other pastures when the grazing becomes of poor quality.

It is quite easy to overstock even good improved pastures especially during a dry spell. A timely inspection will guard against this and enable the producer to keep his calves growing and prevent injury to his pasture. A good catch crop such as soybeans, or sudan grass or those few extra acres of pastures you didn't think you would need often come in handy to prevent overgrazing.

Creep Feeding Calves:

If your pasture is not very good or if your cows are poor milkers it will frequently pay to creep-feed the calves up to weaning time. This will result in larger, fatter, more uniform calves which if sent to market at weaning will also bring a higher price per pound. It will usually pay to creep-feed purebred calves but if commercial calves are to be carried over as stockers or put in the feed lot for a long feeding period creep feeding may not pay.

Remember if you are to market good calves this fall or cattle that are large for their age at any future date you must grow your calves well during the grazing season.

PARASITIC CONTROL IN SWINE

In these trying times of meat and feed shortages it is especially important to take extra care of our livestock. There is no more wasteful or unprofitable practice than feeding good feed to pigs that are

.....
EDITOR'S NOTE — This is the seventh in a series of articles on livestock furnished by Lancaster's Stockyards, Rocky Mount, N. C.
.....

heavily infested with parasites. Why feed parasites when your hogs are in need of a good ration?

Preventing Infestation:

Good, clean, temporary pastures are here strongly recommended for your nursing sows and young pigs. Soybeans, cowpeas, sudan grass, and lespedeza, if it is on land which has been cropped since hogs have been on it, are all satisfactory summer pasture crops for swine. Alfalfa is now also proving to be a valuable pasture crop for pigs if it has not been used previously by swine. The small grains, crimson clover and Italian Rye Grass furnish good winter grazing. Permanent pastures that have been grazed by swine are usually infested with internal parasite eggs which makes it inadvisable to turn nursing sows or pigs on them.

A few days before a sow is due to farrow she should be separated from the other hogs and then thoroughly cleaned by brushing with a stiff brush and washing with soap and water, special care being taken to clean the feet and udder. She should then be moved to clean, dry well-bedded, farrowing quarters that have recently been thoroughly disinfected with hot lye water or some other good disinfectant. The farrowing quarters can be located in the clean pasture recommended above or if not the sow and pigs should

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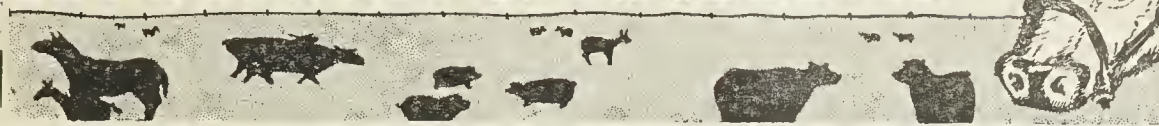
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Livestock Section..



be moved to the pasture by the time the pigs are one week old.

Treating for Round Worms:

If the above preventive measures were not taken parasites may often prevent any profits from the pigs or may even result in severe losses from round worms.

If the pigs are wormy they should be treated soon after weaning. There are a number of preparations and methods on the market for treating pigs for round worms, but the following has proven very satisfactory in numerous carefully controlled tests: Thoroughly mix *phenothiazine* into the amount of grain, milk, or slops which is customarily given to the pigs at one feeding. The pigs in each group should be fairly uniform as to weight and age and there should be sufficient room at the trough for all the pigs in a group to eat at the same time. Mix the phenothiazine in the proportions so that the pigs will receive about 0.1 gram of it per pound of live weight or about 4 grams for a 40-pound pig. It must be remembered though, that no treatment is as good as prevention. It should be your aim to produce pigs that are as free of internal parasites as possible.

Treating for Lice and Mange:

If the pigs become lousy the lice can be controlled by cleaning the beds and oiling the pigs and quarters with crude oil or burnt cylinder oil. This treatment should be repeated in two weeks.

In case of mange thoroughly clean and disinfect the quarters and wash the pigs with a disinfectant. Then treat the pigs as for lice. There are many more parasites of swine but the ones discussed in this article are by far the most important ones. Plan to feed your pigs well but don't feed parasites.

BABY BEEF PRODUCTION BY JUNIOR CLUBS

No doubt most of you have been hearing of the outstanding baby beef club shows and sales that our North Carolina boys and girls have been having throughout our State. We hope that all of you have had or soon will have an opportunity of attending one of these most worthwhile enterprises.

Growth of Enterprise:

From a meager beginning a few years ago of a small number of rather poor quality calves, these junior shows have grown into outstanding occasions contain-

ing large numbers of high quality fat baby beeves. Not only has the quality of a high percentage of the calves been good but their average selling price per pound has been unusually satisfying.

You probably haven't realized it but within the last year around one thousand baby beef club calves have been shown and sold within our State bringing in over two hundred thousand dollars.

Value:

A high percentage of these club members no doubt made a profit on their calves and we are sure they have all benefited in a way that can't be measured in dollars and cents. The love of a child for his or her calf and the responsibility that goes with caring for it makes for a better citizen. After all our chief aim in this work is to make boys and girls into men and women. Our good club boys of today will be our best livestock men of tomorrow. Your *livestock markets* have thoroughly realized the importance of this work and have been loyal supporters of the club members.

Source of Calves:

There are a number of places where feeder calves can be obtained but just getting a calf is not enough for unless the club member starts with a reasonably good animal his chances of having a good baby beef are doomed at the first. Frequently the calf is raised on the same farm with the club member and we are encouraging this practice. Or he may be at least purchased locally. The bringing in of high grade females like those *we recently brought in* from out West will greatly aid in supplying home grown calves.

The largest source of feeder club calves

in North Carolina, however, is in the mountains. For more beef cattle are produced there than anywhere else in the State, but due to the steep nature of the land here is not sufficient grain produced for finishing. These feeder calves are for sale in the largest quantities in the fall at the close of the grazing season. A good many calves were shipped in from Virginia last year because not enough suitable calves could be found in our State. In the past some have been brought in from Alabama and Texas but let us hope that the time is not far off when most of our calves are raised on the farms where fed or can be purchased locally.

Selection:

Give the boy or girl a chance to have a good steer at showing time by getting them a good feeder calf to start with. Home grown calves should be fed whenever possible and when this is not the case try to get choice calves, purchased near at home at commercial prices. It is usually best for each club member to have two calves because two fed together do better than one.

Age, Weight and Breeding:

The most satisfactory calves for feeding in most cases should be seven to eight months old when purchased and weigh 400 to 500 pounds. This means that they will be twelve to sixteen months old at show time for it generally takes about eight months to properly fatten a young growing calf. The club calves must be steers, and without horns, when shown, but they may be purebreds, high grades of any of the strictly beef breeds or crossbreds of two of these breeds. They should by all means, however, show a high percentage of good beef breeding.

Purchase Price:

The price paid for feeder calves should not be too out of line with commercial prices of stockers and feeders. The paying of some premium in order to get the best calves in a herd is justified but the prices should not be so high that the new owner of a calf will have to produce a

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champion if he is to show a financial profit. Most cattle breeders in our State are interested in the promotion of Baby Beef Club work to the extent of selling calves to club members at reasonable prices.

The Right Kind of Calf:

The calf you pick out should be thick fleshed, broad deep, blocky, compact and close to the ground. His top and underline should be straight and his width and depth carried evenly from end to end. He should be smooth in the shoulders, wide in the spring of ribs, thick in the loin, smooth over the hips, and level in the rump with a smooth tail setting. The legs should be short and straight with the fleshing extending well down. Well developed hind quarters, both in width and depth, with a deep, full twist are essential.

A short thick neck neatly and smoothly joined to the head and shoulders is very desirable. The head should be short from the eyes to the muzzle, wide between the eyes, have a broad muzzle, and have a neat appearance.

The chest should be deep and wide with a good spring of fore ribs, the heart girth well developed and the fore flank deep and full. This makes a good constitution which is an indication of good feeding qualities.

In addition to the above items the calf should show high quality and freedom from coarseness. This is indicated by a clean cut appearance of the head, medium sized bone, a loose pliable hide, a silky coat of hair, and general smoothness and blending of parts.

Calves with a high percentage of good beef breeding usually have a more desirable form, quality and feeding ability, (which are essential to making a good baby beef) than those of other breeding. Avoid animals with much dairy or scrub breeding, for although one may occasionally look good as a calf when he has milk

fat, in most cases the older he gets the worse he will look.

Remember the champion calf is not champion just because he was a top calf to start with, although the importance of this can not be overemphasized. Neither did he win because of excellent feeding or training alone, both of which are essential. The high honors go to the calf that was a good individual to start with and in addition received the best of feeding management and training.

Feeding:

We do not advise starting a Baby Beef Project unless enough home grown feeds can be produced to finish the job. Of course it may be advisable to purchase some protein concentrate, such as cottonseed meal, but certainly the roughage and grain should be produced on the home farm.

It will take about 40 to 45 bushels of corn or its equivalent to properly finish a calf when intelligent use is made of pasture and hay. Therefore the average club member should have about 50 bushels of corn or its equivalent on hand, to be on the safe side, for each steer he feeds. When a good job of feeding is done the steers should make an average gain of two pounds or better daily. It is advisable if possible to start your calf on feed before weaning and by all means take him off milk, in any form at 500 pounds.

The calf should be started on feed as early as possible and then the amount of concentrates gradually increased until he is on a full grain ration. This will require from four to six weeks if he has not had any grain before weaning. Be sure to start in time to have him fat for the shows and sale and don't be afraid of getting him too fat.

Regularity of feeding is very important as well as avoiding any sudden changes in both kind and amount of feed. Clean, fresh water, loose salt and good, bright hay should be kept before the calves at

all times. Feed boxes and hay racks should be kept clean and the stalls dry, clean and well bedded.

Use care in feeding; if the calf goes off feed, cut the grain down or entirely out for a feed or two. Then feed a small amount, gradually increasing it until your calf is on a full feed again. Two feedings a day is advisable unless your calf is not fat enough in which case feed three times a day during the latter part of the feeding period.

The N. C. Agricultural Extension Department has found the following method and ration very satisfactory for finishing club calves. "Start calves on 2 or 3 pounds per day of the following mixture:

Corn (shelled or coarsely cracked) 4 parts by weight.

Oats (rolled or whole) 2 parts by weight.

Protein meal 1 part by weight.

Hay full fed.

Pasture (small area) until latter part of feeding period.

Increase gradually the amount of concentrates and the proportion of corn so at the end of six weeks the steer will be getting about all he will clean up." By this time the proportion of corn should be up to about 8 parts. Rolled or coarsely ground barley may replace half of the corn in the ration and the protein meal may be either cottonseed meal, soybean oil meal or peanut oil meal. If it is not practical to feed oats the corn can be replaced with five parts by weight of coarsely ground corn and cob meal which should be gradually increased to ten parts of the mixture by the end of six weeks.

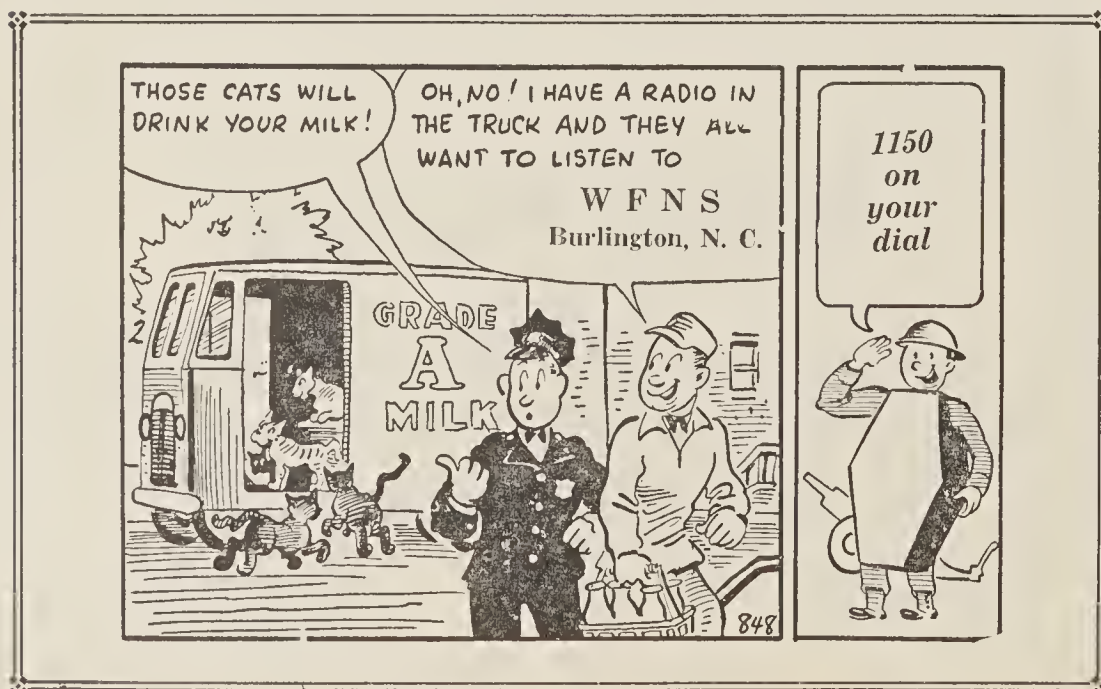
All calves should be dehorned and castrated at an early age. This may be done as early as ten days after birth.

Halter break calves early, using a one-half inch rope halter to teach them to lead and stand properly. It is usually best to keep them tied for a few days with frequent gentle brushing, before attempting to lead them. Then lead each day, being firm, yet quiet and gentle as possible. Never allow a calf to get loose when breaking him to lead. After calves are halter broken let them run loose and if kept in stalls turn them out for daily exercise except in bad weather.

Groom calves frequently, using a comb lightly but doing most of the grooming with a stiff brush.

Wash and curl each week for several weeks before show time. Scrub thoroughly with soap and water, and rinse all of soap out of the hair coat. Then get some experienced person to show you how to curl and dress the coat of hair for the first time.

Train the calves to lead and stand properly. They should stand with their feet squarely under them, their backs straight, and their heads in a natural position. Give them this practice daily.



Farmville Tobacco Market Expects Busy Season

By SAM BUNDY

Farmville, North Carolina, is known far and wide by growers and buyers as the steadiest market in the flue-cured tobacco producing area. The market enjoys the favorable advantage of being right in the heart of the Eastern Carolina Bright Tobacco Belt, and is most favorably located in a section where the finest and best flue-cured tobacco is grown. It is a well-known and established fact that few areas can equal and none can surpass the Farmville section in the high type of tobacco product grown.

Pitt County is the largest tobacco producing county in the world and Farmville is one of the two markets located in that county. Through the years the Farmville area has been the recipient of research and experienced planning in the growing of the finest tobaccos, for it is here that quality as well as quantity combines to make this area the tops of all tobacco-producing areas. The Farmville market draws tobacco from the surrounding counties of Greene, Wilson, Edgecombe, and others which produce a high quality of tobacco second to none. None will contradict the statement that in a fifty mile radius of farmville not only is a very large percentage of the flue-cured tobacco grown but, also, that the quality and texture is the best and finest produced. For many years the experienced tobacco man and close observers have marvelled at the fine quality and texture of the tobacco sold on the Farmville market.

Many reasons exist for the favorable position of the Farmville market. Among the outstanding reasons is the soil which is agreed by agricultural experts to be just right. A most favorable climate provides the right growing season. Therefore a suitable soil plus a favorable climate combine to produce a superior tobacco. It is little wonder, then, that the tobacco raised in the Farmville area is in universal demand and finds its way to markets throughout the world.

The Farmville market has enjoyed progressively successful seasons and during the past season sold 31,500,000 pounds for an official average of \$53.00 per hundred. It is very interesting to note that the market here is no flash-in-the-pan market, i.e. it is not way up one year and way down another year, but the market goes on in the even tenor of its ways and without a lot of fanfare sells tobacco on its merits gained over a period of years. Recently the Tobacco Board of Trade elected Richard Harris of the A. C. Monk

& Company as president and John N. Fountain of the Farmer's Warehouse as vice-president. At the present time Sam D. Bundy is secretary-treasurer and sales supervisor. Plans are now being formulated for a successful 1947 selling season.

The Farmville market has two sets of buyers, representing all major companies and many independents. The splendid personnel and long tobacco experience of the buyers have been of great advantage in the existence and growth of the market. It is true almost without exception that once a buyer is placed on the Farmville market he always requests that he be sent back.

The warehouse space is sufficient to take care of the market needs, and the houses are operated by men of much experience in the tobacco business. The warehouse operators here are tobacco growers themselves and thus know by experience, training and close observation the tobacco situation from the time it is planted until it is sold. Farmville has the reputation of having the most orderly and well regulated sales of any market anywhere. Here a farmer knows when he can sell his tobacco and does not have to leave it on the floor for three or four days before it is sold.

And so, Farmville progresses steadily forward and maintains its most enviable reputation as being the "Steadiest Tobacco Market in the Two Carolinas." Its growth and development have been steady, its relationships to the tobacco growers have been steady, its relationships to the buying interests have been steady, its ability in producing a high quality of tobacco has been steady—and when a tobacco market has been through the years steady in all of its phases, what more can you ask?

Dread Chick Killer Observed in State

A wide spread of Coccidiosis, a dreaded chick disease, has been observed in practically every section of the state, according to C. F. Parrish, in charge of Poultry Extension of State College.

This chick killer, affecting young chicks, is becoming increasingly prevalent on North Carolina poultry farms, the poultry specialist said, adding that recent wet weather was perhaps the factor most responsible for the outbreak.

Coccidiosis is a germ that may spread from one bird to another through droppings, by the use of second hand feed bags, or may be carried on the shoes of poultrymen or visitors, he explained.

"The disease may affect chicks from one week to sixteen weeks old," Mr. Parrish said, "but generally it affects them at from six to twelve weeks."

Bloody droppings, chicks becoming droopy, not eating, and appearing chilly are good symptoms of the disease.

As a prevention to Coccidiosis, Mr. Parrish advised poultrymen to keep the houses dry, avoid overcrowding, add fresh litter often or clean the house often. Plenty of ventilation should be provided and the house and equipment kept sanitary.

If an outbreak of this disease occurs, remove the litter from the brooder house and replace with fresh dry litter every other day for several days. Add 1 percent of sulfaguanadine powder to the mash for one and one-half days and skip four days. Then give the treated mash again for one day. Skip four days again and feed one more day, making a total of three treatments. If the birds go off feed before the four day interval has elapsed, feed the treated mash immediately.

The house need not be cleaned while this treatment is used, Mr. Parrish said.



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ACROSS THE EDITOR'S DESK

This Is the Year

Eighteen years of detailed weather information, long walks through the Iowa farm country, painstaking research into the language, games, and songs of the farmers, and even a large collection of rocks and plants went into the writing of *This Is the Year*, a long, fiery novel of prairie farm life by Feike Feikema. *This Is the Year* was published by Doubleday and Company on March 20.

Himself the six-foot, eight-and-three-quarter-inch son of an Iowa farmer of Frisian descent, Feike Feikema set for himself the task of building his novel from the authentic forces of nature which have actually governed the lives of Iowa farmers during recent years. First, he laid out a long stretch of time, from 1908 to 1936. He filled all of the available weather data for every one of the six and a half thousand days—temperature, rainfall, floods, and windstorms.

It is this "schedule of the forces of nature" which forms the pattern for the author's powerful story of Pier Frixen, his wife Nertha, and the farmers with whom they lived and worked and struggled in the Iowa prairie country. "When *This Is the Year* says it was raining on such and such a day in such and such a place," Feikema states, "it was so. When *Year* says it was 116 degrees hot, it was so. When *Year* states that no rain fell in Siouxland for 50 days, or that the rabbits in their hunger nibbled the buds of apple trees in the winter, that too is the truth."

The title for *This Is the Year* comes from the indomitable courage of the prairie farmer, the author says. "Each spring, no matter how bad it has been the year before, he stands at the window and says, 'This is the year. This time I'll do it.'"

Because he wanted his people to be as authentic as the background against which they moved, Feikema also conducted painstaking research into the customs and language of the prairie farmers. Although he had lived most of his life in the Siouxland, he returned for long walks through the country, collecting plants and rocks, talking to everyone he met, recording details of language, games, and songs. These, too, he has worked into his story, making of his novel a real and true story of prairie life.

Feikema, who was born on a farm in northwestern Iowa in 1912, received his early education in country schools. After graduating from Michigan's Calvin College in 1934, he spent three years roaming about the country, working at odd jobs

and developing his writing. In 1940, he completed *The Golden Bowl*, a novel about the dust bowl area of the middle west. He is also the author of *Boy Almighty*, the story of his fight for life in a tuberculosis hospital. Sinclair Lewis has said of him, "He is in his early thirties. It is apparent that he may become one of the most important novelists in America."

Tomato Late Blight Should Be Checked

In connection with possible recurrence of severe late blight attacks on tomatoes in 1947, and because about 60 percent of the canning crop grown in Eastern and Central States is produced from plants grown in the South, particularly in Georgia, it is vitally important for the plant grower in the South to be alert in preparations for adequate control of this disease.

Some suggestions on this are brought to the attention of growers by Dr. Edward K. Vaughan and associates in the Division of Fruit and Vegetable Crop diseases of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, who have conducted cooperative studies on plant bed diseases for several years with the Georgia Experiment Station and the Georgia Department of Entomology, especially at the Coastal Plains Experiment Station.

Because tomato late blight has never occurred seriously during two successive seasons, the grower of green-wrap tomatoes may possibly assume that this will again be true. It may be that too few fields grown for a market crop will be dusted or sprayed in 1947. The likelihood of the disease occurrence is probably associated with the development of late blight on the Florida crop during this winter and the coming spring. While there is a possibility that weather conditions may not favor the spreading of the late blight fungus during the coming season, it is evident that the plant grower should make every effort to improve the method and timing of his fungicide applications. It is no time to take a chance with hazards of this nature, in view of the loss in the season just past.

Regulations governing the production of certified plants in Georgia require that fields be dusted or sprayed with an approved fungicide at intervals of 7 to 10 days. With the large percentage of fields entered for certification each year, this insures that practically all plant beds will be thus protected. It is likely that copper

fungicides will be used on practically all fields next season, according to the Department.

Where tomatoes are grown for fruit a spray program which saves 90 percent or more of the foliage would be fairly satisfactory, but in a field where plants are grown for shipment to commercial growers an infestation of half of one percent on the leaves would be considered severe. The difficulty of consistently achieving such a thorough control program as desired in plant propagation for commercial sale is recognized, but experimental efforts are being directed to meet this goal in a practical way.

The fact that Northern tomato growers have bought more than 15 billion plants in the past 30 years from Georgia and adjacent States indicates that in general the bulk of the plants have been thrifty and profitable. A majority of the Southern plant growers desire to keep up their reputation for unfailing quality in the goods shipped to Northern growers, and hence the challenge of the late blight epidemic is of paramount importance at this time to them, the Department specialists declare.

Throughout most of the Northern tomato growing area spraying for control of late blight has seldom been necessary, and in the South it has occurred so rarely that almost no attempts to check it have been deemed worth the effort. Yet last year's heavy losses bring the matter into fresh prominence, both in the South and in the Northern commercial packing regions.

Growers have been advised by State and Federal workers that spraying has been more effective than dusting for disease control, but there are certain practical questions which remain to be answered, according to plant disease specialists. In prolonged wet weather the use of heavy spray equipment is impracticable because it bogs down in the field. Dusters can be used under these conditions, and growers must face the fact that no fungicides can be applied during the most critical period unless a duster, instead of a sprayer, is used.

Observations made last year indicated that insect control was better with dusts than with sprays, with control of early blight about equal with both treatments. The specialists state that in any event, the need is great for more efficient dusting apparatus. Airplane dusting was tried, but it was not of much value except under ideal conditions.



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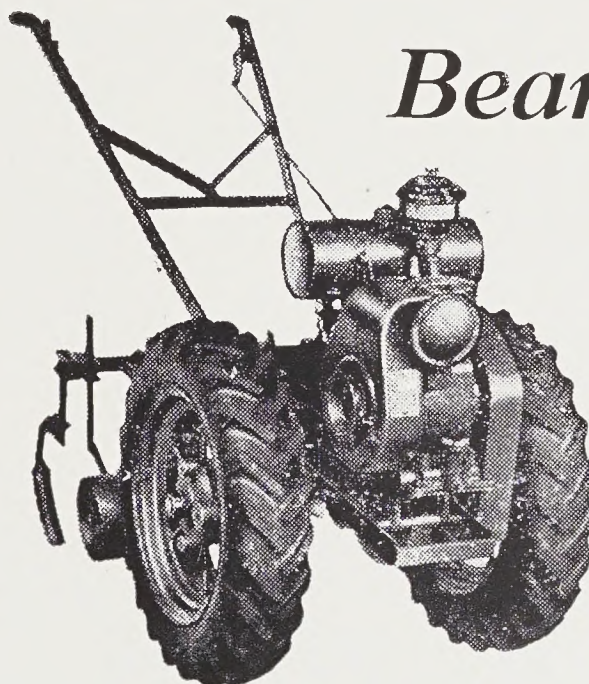
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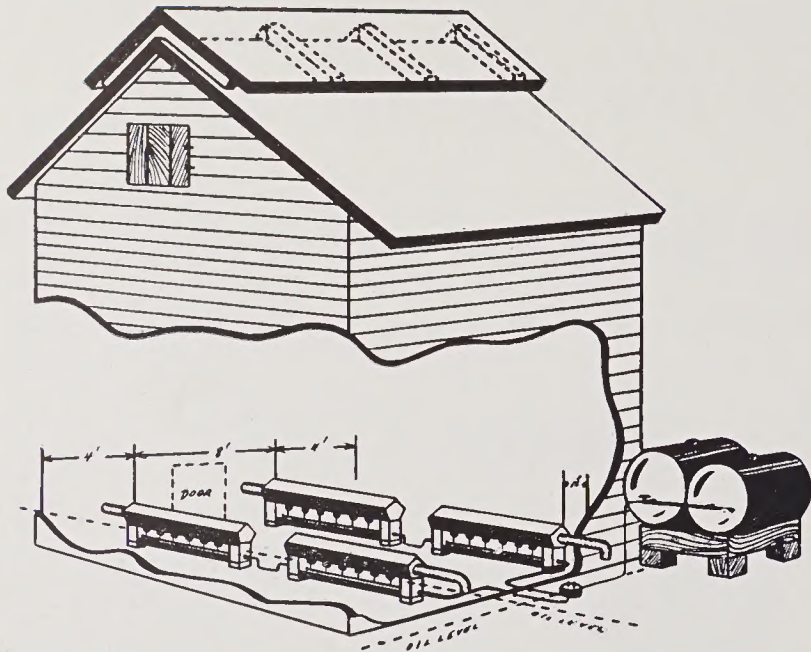
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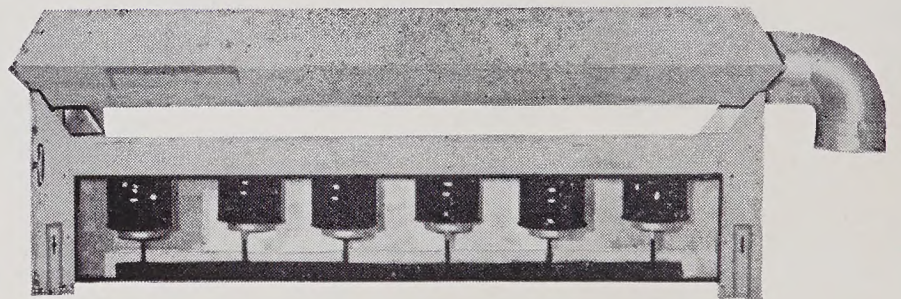
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